REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.116, and in light of the remarks which follow.

Claims 9 and 10 are pending in the application.

Turning now to the Official Action, Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not adequately described in the specification. For at least the reasons that follow, withdrawal of the rejection is in order.

The Official Action asserts that there are two outstanding issues with respect to Applicants deposit. In particular, the Official Action asserts that Applicants have not: (1) shown that the Imtec depository is a "fully recognized depository;" and (2) provided an appropriate statement concerning availability of the deposit.

With respect to the first issue, Applicants have provided the attached depository listing taken from PCT Applicant's Guide – Volume 1- Annex L, which was updated on May 6, 2004. Page 19 of the Annex lists the Imtec depository as an institution "having acquired the status of international depository authority under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure." Applicants submit that this listing proves that the Imtec depository is "fully recognized."

With respect to the second issue, Applicants hereby submit that their deposit of "Bacillus sp. IICT 01" (specimen no. SI (5-9-88) Herb. IMI No. B12681) is publicly available and that all restrictions on the availability of the public deposited material will be irrevocably removed on the grant of the patent on this application.

In view of the attached listing, showing that the Imtec depository is "fully recognized," and Applicants' above statement concerning the availability of the deposit, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 9 and 10.

From the foregoing, Applicants earnestly solicit further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general,.

Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: June 4, 2004

Martin A. Bruehs

Registration No. 45,635

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620

ATTACHMENT:

Listing of Depository Institutions (PCT Applicant's Guide –

Volume I – Annex L, pages 17-19 (6 May 2004))

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PCT Applicant's Guide - Volume I - Annex L!

SN&A

Page 17

Deposits of Microorganisms and Other Biological Material

List of depositary institutions

Note: This table does not indicate in relation to depositary institutions the kinds of microorganisms or other biological material which may be deposited with and the fees charged by them. This information may be obtained directly from the institutions. As regards depositary institutions which have acquired the status of international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, such information is published at the time of the acquisition of the status of international depositary authority in the WIPO monthly review Industrial Property and Copyright. Furthermore, the January issue of the said review indicates, for each international depositary authority, the kinds of microorganisms and other biological material that it accepts and the fees charged by it. For more detailed information, see the Guide to the Deposit of Microorganisms under the Budapest Treaty.

Advanced Biotechnology Center (ABC)1 Interlab Cell Line Collection (Biotechnology Dept) Largo Rossana Benzi, 10 16132 Genova Italy

Agricultural Research Service Culture Collection (NRRL)1 1815 North University Street Peoria, Illinois 61604 United States of America

American Type Culture Collection (ATCC)1 10801 University Blvd. Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209 United States of America

Australian Government Analytical Laboratories (AGAL)1 1. Suakin Street Pymble, N.S.W. 2073 Australia

Belgian Coordinated Collections of Microorganisms (BCCMTM)1

Headquarters:

Prime Minister's Services Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs (OSTC) Rue de la Science 8 B-1000 Brussels Belgium

Collections:

Institut scientifique de la Santé publique -Louis Pasteur Section Mycologie (BCCMTM/IHEM)¹ 14, rue J. Wytsman B-1050 Brussels Belgium

Vakgroep voor Moleculaire Biologie -Plasmidencollectie (BCCMTM/LMBP)1 Universiteit Gent K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35 B-9000 Gent Belgium

Laboratorium voor Microbiologie – Bacteriënverzameling (BCCMTM/LMG)¹ Universiteit Gent K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35 B-9000 Gent Belgium

Mycothèque de l'Université Catholique de Louvain (BCCMTM/MUCL)¹ Place Croix du Sud 3 B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve Belgium

National Microbiology Laboratory, Health Canada (NMLHC)1 Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health 1015 Arlington Street Winnipeg, MB Canada R3E 3R2

Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS)1 Uppsalalaan 8 NL-3584 CT Utrecht P.O. Box 85167 NL-3508 AD Utrecht Netherlands

China Center for Type Culture Collection (CCTCC)1 Wuhan University Wuhan 430072 China

China General Microbiological Culture Collection Center (CGMCC)1 China Committee for Culture Collection of Microorganisms P.O. Box 2714 Beijing 100080 China

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(6 May 2004)

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Depositary institution having acquired the status of international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

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91-11-29226005

Deposits of Microorganisms and Other Biological Material

List of depositary institutions [Continued]

Colección Española de Cultivos Tipo (CECT)¹ Universidad de Valencia Edificio de Investigación Campus de Burjasot

46100 Burjasot (Valencia)

Spain

Collection nationale de cultures de micro-organismes (CNCM) Institut Pasteur

28, rue du Dr Roux 75724 Paris Cedex 15

France

Collection of Industrial Microorganisms Institute of Agricultural and Food

Biotechnology (IAFB) Ul. Rakowiecka 36 02-532 Warsaw Poland

Collection of Industrial Yeasts (DBVPG)1 Applied Microbiology Section Department of Plant Biology Faculty of Agriculture University of Perugia

Borgo 20 Giugno, 74 06122 Perugia

Italy

Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP)1

Institute of Freshwater Ecology

Windermere Laboratory

Far Sawrey

Amblesids, Cumbria LA22 0LP

United Kingdom and

Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory

P.O. Box 3

Oban, Argyll PA34 4AD United Kingdom

Culture Collection of Yeasts (CCY)1

Institute of Chemistry

Slovak Academy of Sciences

Dúbravská cesta 9 842 38 Bratislava

Czech Collection of Microorganisms (CCM)1

Masaryc University ul. Tvrdého 14 602 00 Bmo

Czech Republic

DSMZ-Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH (DSMZ)1 Mascheroder Weg 1b

D-38124 Braunschweig

Germany

European Collection of Cell Cultures (ECACC)1 Vaccine Research and Production Laboratory

Public Health Laboratory Service Centre for Applied Microbiology

and Research Porton Down

Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0JG

United Kingdom

Institute for Fermentation (IFO) 17-85 Juso-honmachi 2-chome

Yodogawa-ku

Osaka 532-0024

Japan

Institute of Applied Microbiology (IAM)

Culture Collection

Center for Cellular and Molecular Research Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences

The University of Tokyo

1-1 Yayoi, 1-chome, Bunkyo-ku

Tokyo 113-0032

Japan

CABI BIOSCIENCE, UK Centre (IMI)1

Bakeham Lane

Englefield Green

Egham, Surrey TW20 9TY

United Kingdom

International Patent Organism Depositary (IPOD)

National Institute of Advanced Industrial

Science and Technology (AIST)
AIST Tsukuba Central 6, 1-1, Higashi 1-chome

Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-Ken 305-8566

Korean Collection for Type Cultures (KCTC)1

52, Oun-dong, Yusong-Ku, Taejon 305-333

Republic of Korea

Korean Cell Line Research Foundation (KCLRF)1

Cancer Research Institute

Seoul National University College of Medicine

28 Yungon-dong, Chongno-gu

Seoul 110-799

Republic of Korea

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Deposits of Microorganisms and Other Biological Material

List of depositary institutions [Continued]

Korean Culture Center of Microorganisms (KCCM)1 361-221, Yurim B/D Honje 1, Sodaemun Scoul 120-091 Republic of Korea

Laboratorium voor Microbiologie (NLM) Julianalaan 67a Delft Netherlands

91-11-29226005

Microbial Strain Collection of Latvia (MSCL)1 University of Latvia Faculty of Biology Blvd. Kronvalda 4 LV-1586 Riga Latvia

Microbial Type Culture Collection & Gene Bank (MTCC) Institute of Microbial Technology (IMTECH) Sector 39 A Chandigarh 160 036 (Union Territory)

and the of

National Bank for Industrial Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (NBIMCC)1 125, Tsarigradskochaussee Blvd. Block 2 1113 Sofia Bulgaria

National Collection of Agricultural and Industrial Microorganisms (NCAIM) Budapest University of Economics and Public Administration Faculty of Food Sciences Somloi út 14-16 H-1118 Budapest Hungary

National Collection of Type Cultures (NCTC)1 Central Public Health Laboratory 61 Colindale Avenue London NW9 5HT United Kingdom

National Collection of Yeast Cultures (NCYC)1 AFRC Institute of Food Research Norwich Laboratory Colney Lane Norwich NR4 7UA United Kingdom

National Collections of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria (NCIMB)1 23 St. Machar Drive Aberdeen AB24 3RY Scotland United Kingdom

National Institute of Technology and Evaluation, Patent Microorganisms Depositary (NPMD) 2-5-8 Kazusakamatari Kisarazu-city Chiba 292-0818 Japan

National Research Center of Antibiotics (VNHA) Nagatinskaya Street 3-a Moscow 113105 Russian Federation

Phabagen Collection (PC) Rijksuniversiteit Utrecht Vakgroep Moleculaire Celbiologie Padualaan 8 3584 CH Utrecht Notherlands

Polish Collection of Microorganisms (PCM)1 Institute of Immunology and Experimental Therapy Polish Academy of Sciences Ul. Weigla 12 53-114 Wroclaw Poland

Russian Collection of Microorganisms (VKM)1 Prospekt Naouki, 5 142292 Puschino (Moscow Region) Russian Federation

Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM)1 GNII Genetika Dorozhny proezd. 1 Moscow 113545 Russian Federation

(6 May 2004)

Depositary institution having acquired the status of international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.